AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1. **(Original)** An isolated polynucleotide comprising a GDF-9 regulatory element derived from a region of a nonhuman GDF-9 gene selected from the group consisting of the first 10 kilobases of DNA immediately 5' of the transcription start site, an intron, and the first 1 kilobase of DNA immediately 3' of the transcription termination site, wherein said isolated polynucleotide is greater than 261 nucleotides in length.

2. **(Original)** The polynucleotide of claim 1 wherein the regulatory element is derived from the first 3.3 kilobases of DNA immediately 5' of the transcription start site of the nonhuman GDF-9 gene.

3. **(Original)** The polynucleotide of claim 1 wherein the regulatory element is derived from the first 300 base pairs of DNA immediately 5' of the transcription start site of the nonhuman GDF-9 gene.

4. **(Original)** An isolated polynucleotide comprising the first 10 kilobases of DNA immediately 5' of the transcription start site of a nonhuman GDF-9 gene.

5. **(Original)** An isolated polynucleotide comprising the first 3.3 kilobases of DNA immediately 5' of the transcription start site of a nonhuman GDF-9 gene.

6. **(Original)** An isolated polynucleotide comprising the region from 3.3 kilobases to 10 kilobases immediately 5' of the transcription start site of a nonhuman GDF-9 gene.

7. **(Original)** An isolated oocyte-specific regulatory element derived from the 10 kilobases of DNA immediately 5' of the transcription start site of a GDF-9 gene, wherein said oocyte-specific regulatory element is greater than 261 nucleotides in length.

8. **(Original)** An isolated testis-specific regulatory element derived from the 10 kilobases of DNA immediately 5' of the transcription start site of a GDF-9 gene, wherein said testis-specific regulatory element is greater than 261 nucleotides in length.

9. **(Original)** The regulatory element of claim 8, wherein said element is derived from the first 3.3 kilobases of DNA immediately 5' of the transcription start site of a GDF-9 gene, and wherein said element causes tissue-specific expression of a gene operatively linked to the element in the testis.

10. **(Original)** The regulatory element of claim 8, wherein said element is derived from the region from 3.3 kilobases to 10 kilobases of DNA immediately 5' of the transcription start site of a GDF-9 gene, and wherein said element downregulates expression of a gene operatively linked to the element in the testis.

11. **(Original)** An expression vector comprising the isolated GDF-9 polynucleotide of any one of claims 1, 4, 5 or 6 operably linked to a gene.

12. **(Original)** The expression vector of claim 11, wherein the gene is a reporter gene.

13. **(Original)** An oocyte containing the polynucleotide of any one of claims 1, 4, 5 or 6.

14.-22. **(Cancelled)**

23. **(New)** The regulatory element of claim 7, wherein said element is derived from the first 3.3 kilobases of DNA immediately 5' of the transcription start site of a GDF-9 gene, and wherein said element causes tissue-specific expression of a gene operatively linked to the element in the oocyte.

24. **(New)** The regulatory element of claim 7, wherein said element is derived from the region from 3.3 kilobases to 10 kilobases of DNA immediately 5' of the transcription start site of a GDF-9 gene, and wherein said element downregulates expression of a gene operatively linked to the element in the oocyte.

25. **(New)** A testicular cell containing the polynucleotide of any one of claims 1, 4, 5 or 6.